

Art Unit: 1641

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MA

Claims 1-34 canceled

35. (Amended) An analytical device for the detection or determination of a component in a fluid wherein said component is an analyte with bioaffinity binding properties, comprising a layer of a plurality of substantially planar zones adjacent one another and in absorbent contact with one another, said layer including:

a mobile phase application zone (MPAZ), an intermediate zone (IZ), and an adsorption zone (AZ), liquid being capable of moving by adsorption from said MPAZ through said IZ to said AZ, and wherein said IZ comprises a solid phase zone (SPZ) having at least one unlabelled reactant, capable of interactions of biological affinity with an analyte;

at least one unattached, labeled reactant (conjugate) capable of interactions of biological affinity with said analyte disposed in an area between the MPAZ and the SPZ; and

an analyte application zone disposed at said MPAZ or in between said MPAZ and said AZ, and

wherein all reactants necessary for the detection or determination are present in a dehydrated form in the device, and

wherein said MPAZ has dimensions to contain sufficient fluid to permit the fluid to migrate to the AZ, and

claim 36 (original)

36. The device of claim 35, wherein the analyte is an antigen and the unlabelled reactant and the labelled reactant are antibodies.

Art Unit: 1641

claim 37(original)

37. The device of claim 35, wherein the analyte is an antibody and the unlabelled reactant and the labelled reactant are antigens.

claim 38(original)

38. The device of claim 35, wherein the analyte is an antigen and the unlabelled reactant is an antibody and the labelled reactant is an antigen.

claim 39(original)

39. The device of claim 35, wherein the analyte is an antibody and the unlabelled reactant is an antigen and the labelled reactant is an antibody.

claim 40(original)

40. The device of claim 35, wherein the analyte is a protein and the unlabelled reactant and the labelled reactant are antibodies.

claim 41 (original)

41. The device of claim 35, wherein the analyte is hCG and the unlabelled reactant and the labelled reactant are antibodies specific for hCG.

claim 42 (original)

42. The device of claim 35, wherein the unattached labelled reactant is labelled directly or indirectly with an enzyme.

claims 43-46 canceled

claim 47(amended)

47. The device of claim 35, wherein the analyte is hCG.

claims 48-49 canceled

claim 50(amended)

50. The analytical device of claim 35, wherein the AZ is an area where excess unattached, labeled reactant is removed from the SPZ.

51. (Amended) An analytical device for the detection of beta-hCG in a fluid sample by means of a sandwich immunoassay comprising a layer of a plurality of substantially planar zones adjacent one another and in absorbent contact with one another, said layer including:

a mobile phase application zone (MPAZ), an intermediate zone (IZ) and an adsorption zone (AZ), liquid being capable of moving by adsorption from said MPAZ through said IZ to said AZ, and wherein said IZ further comprises a solid phase zone (SPZ) having at least one unlabelled antibody, capable of an immunological interaction with beta-hCG;

at least one unattached labeled antibody (conjugate) capable of an immunological interaction with beta-hCG, disposed in an area between the MPAZ and the SPZ; and

an analyte application zone disposed at said MPAZ,

wherein the MPAZ has dimensions to contain sufficient fluid to permit the fluid to migrate to the end of the AZ, and

wherein said layer of substantially planar zones contains at least two sheet-like strips made from different materials, and

wherein after application of said fluid sample, the presence of beta-hCG is detected visually in the SPZ.

claims 52-53 canceled

claim 54(amended)

54. The analytical device of claim 51, wherein the unattached, labeled antibody is labeled with an enzyme.

claim 55-56 canceled

claim 57(amended)

57. The analytical device of claim 51, wherein the AZ is an area where excess unattached, labeled antibody is removed from the SPZ.

claim 58(amended)

58. The device of claim 35, wherein the analyte is an antigen and the unlabelled reactant is an antigen and the labeled reactant is an antibody.